lose financially, as they had to be otherwise paid notice period pay ranging from one month to three months.

Revival of Barauni Unit of HFCL

1743. SHRI LALU PRASAD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to close Barauni unit of Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation;

(b) whether it has been decided to continue Namrup Unit of the Corporation which is in a similar situation with several steps for its revival; and

(c) if so, keeping in view the requirement of fertilizers in the Northern Region and need of agriculture in Bihar, whether Government propose to revive Barauni Unit on the same line as has been adopted for Namrup and if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHHATTRAPAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government has decided to close down the Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited (HFC) including its Barauni unit as the same has not been found techno-economically viable.

(b) The revival and revamp of Namrup units of HFC was decided in 1997. However, Barauni unit and Namrup units of HFC are not similarly placed in terms of feed-stock, etc.

(c) No, Sir. However, adequate supply of urea is ensured to all the States at a uniform Statutory Sale Price and no State is allowed to suffer from shortage of fertilizers.

Pollution in Metros

1744. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the pollution level of each of the metros in the country;

(b) what drastic action is being contemplated to bring down the pollution levels in the metros;

(c) whether it is a fact that no serious actions are being taken against polluting vehicles and industries; and

(d) the number of cases which have been booked for violation of pollution standards during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV): (a) to (d) Ambient air quality analysis in the metros has revealed that the values of Sulphur dioxide (SO2) and Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) are within the prescribed norms, whereas the levels of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) and Respirable Suspended particulate Matter (RSPM) exceed the norms at some places during certain period. Keeping in view the increase in vehicular traffic and the industrial activities in metros, the Government has taken several steps to check pollution levels, which include:

- Effluent and emission standards for different industries have been notified under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 to check pollution.
- Highly polluting industries have been identified. Defaulting Industries have been directed to install necessary pollution control equipment in a time bound manner.
- Stricter emission standards for automobiles and fuel quality standards have been notified. Use of clean fuels such as CNG is promoted especially for plying of commercial vehicles in major cities.
- Source-specific noise standards for automobiles and generator sets have been notified to control noise pollution.

137 cases have been filed under Air and Water Act.

India's proposals at Johannesburg summit

†1745. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of proposals submitted by India for securing concessions, assistance and consultation from developed countries for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.